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LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI AT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF U.S. EVACUATION

FBIS MEA-76-116

Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Jun 76 JN

[Excerpts] The masses of the people in the Libyan Arab Republic and the Arab homeland today celebrated the anniversary of the greatest historic event which signifies the triumph of the Arab will over American arrogance--the sixth anniversary of the evacuation of U.S. troops from Libya. On this historic occasion, a big public ceremony was held at the 11 June Airbase during which the leader of the revolution Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi officially opened the base.

The ceremony was attended by the members of the Revolution Command Council, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, members of the General Secretariat of the People's Congress, the ministers, the fraternal and friendly guest delegations, and the members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps.

Amid public cheers for a long life for the revolution and its leader, Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September Revolution, delivered an historic speech when he opened the base at noon today as part of the Libyan people's celebrations of the anniversary of the U.S. withdrawal from the country.

The leader of the revolution spoke about the base. He said that it was once an American base, but the great revolution has turned it into a huge airbase. Imperialism and its agents, he said, told the Tunisian brothers during the preparations to open this base that the Libyan Arab Republic was preparing it in order to attack Tunisia. The brother colonel said: Although any target in northwest Africa is at its mercy, this base is a fortress to defend Tunisia and its people. It is also an Arab stronghold to defend the Arab homeland.

The leader of the revolution said: When I talk about what is taking place in Lebanon, I am not making any judgements of decisions but stating facts. We would like to say that if the purpose of the intervention by the Syrian forces in Lebanon is to annex Lebanon, then we are unionists and we have nothing to comment on that. But if the purpose is to strike at the Palestinian resistance or the Lebanese nationalist movement, then we say that this is national treason and we are against it.

The brother colonel warned the news agencies against distorting his words on this subject. The colonel said: If the purpose of the intervention of the Syrian forces is to back a certain community--the isolationist rightwing--then we say that this is unreasonable. It would give us the right to support the side of our choice.

The leader of the revolution said: The Syrian intervention in Lebanon has created an historic precedent. We will not be able to find any excuse to prevent its repetition in the future. This precedent is represented by the intervention of an Arab army in another Arab country. President Hafiz al-Asad has told us that the intervention of the Syrian forces is to stop the fighting and to prevent partition. But if this is done at the expense of the Palestinian resistance, then we say that the Palestinian resistance is above all other considerations.

The brother colonel said: We have held contacts. Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud left for Damascus, Baghdad, and Algeria to form a steadfast front for the liberation of the Golan and then Palestine. Now the battle has become a battle against the resistance, which has been compelled to fight in self-defense. If the Palestinian resistance is crushed, the Palestine question will be over.

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ALGERIA

BOUMEDIENE RECEIVES YASIR 'ARAFAT

Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Jun 76 LD

[Text] This morning Houari Boumediene, chairman of the Council of the Revolution and president, received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, at the presidential headquarters. The meeting was also attended by Abdelaziz Bouteflika, member of the Council of the Revolution and foreign minister; Col Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, member of the Council of the Revolution and director of the Sharshal Military Academy; who returned to Algeria on the same plane as Yasir 'Arafat. Yahiaoui represented Algeria at the celebrations of the sixth anniversary of the evacuation of the U.S. forces from Libyan soil.

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived at noon today in Algiers from Tripoli where he attended the celebrations of the fraternal Libyan people of evacuation day. In a press statement 'Arafat explained that he has come to Algeria to hold talks with Chairman Houari Boumediene on the possibility of finding a just and immediate solution to the crisis through which Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance are passing. He called on the Arab nation to shoulder its historic responsibility.

'ARAFAT DEPARTS ALGIERS AFTER TALKS

Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 12 Jun 76 LD

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who arrived in Algiers early this afternoon, left Algiers tonight, having been received by President Houari Boumediene.

In a brief statement before departure, 'Arafat stated that the conversation he had with President Boumediene concerned the latest development of the situation in Lebanon. Mentioning the cease-fire agreement concluded tonight between the Syrian and Palestinian and progressive Lebanese forces, Yasir 'Arafat said: We hope that this agreement will be respected by the Syrian side.

ENVOY DEPARTS DAMASCUS FOR ALGIERS

Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Jun 76 LD

[Text] Abdelkrim Benmahmoud, minister of primary and secondary education and President Boumediene's envoy, left Damascus today for Algiers. Before leaving the Syrian capital, he said: I am returning to Algiers, after meeting in Damascus and Beirut with Mahmud Riyad, Arab League secretary general, and with all the parties concerned with the Lebanese crisis, in order to inform President Houari Boumediene of the results of this first stage of contacts.

He added: All efforts are now directed toward consolidating the cease-fire on a basis of mutual trust, since all parties regard this consolidation as a pressing need. Contacts between all parties, especially those in Beirut, at a roundtable are of vital importance, he added. These parties should understand that the Arab security forces are only coming to Lebanon to ensure security and peace and for no other reason.

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The brother colonel then explained the contacts held by Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud and the dangers to which he was exposed when the situation developed in a serious manner in Lebanon after the intervention of the Syrian forces. The brother colonel said: We contacted brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and the various Palestinian organizations. The purpose of the Libyan activities was to protect the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist forces led by the Lebanese Arab Army. The Libyan activity was not a mediation effort, because we are not mediators. We ask: Why is the Lebanese revolution being crushed?

The leader of the revolution said: When Maj 'Abd as-Salam agreed with President Hafiz al-Asad on the dispatching of the Libyan-Algerian-Syrian peace force, the formation of a political committee which would enable the president-elect to assume his powers, and the withdrawal of the Syrian Army to the Al-Biqat region, we sent security officers and a unit of the armed forces within 4 hours after that agreement in the hope that it would be joined by Algerian forces and that the massacre would stop. The position of the Libyan Arab Republic is clear: It supports the Lebanese nationalist forces and the Palestinian revolution.

In the last part of his speech, the brother colonel spoke about developments in the Saguia el Hamra and Rio de Oro since the time he announced in his historic speech on 11 June 1972 that a war of liberation would begin if Spain did not withdraw. The brother colonel said: There is a real tragedy now. A large number of people are living as refugees in tents. The brother colonel called on the Libyans to make donations in the form of clothes, foodstuffs, vehicles, and medicine. He said: The problem is still unsolved. We have received information that POLISARIO leader El-Qualf was killed when leading an attack on the Mauritanian capital. If this information is true, then I consider it a shock and a tragedy.

The brother colonel pointed to the aid which Libya and Algeria have given to Mauritania and how the Arabs have gained support from Mauritania's membership in the Arab League. However, in handling this problem, the brother colonel said: Mauritania has followed a course which we had hoped it would avoid.

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat then made a speech in which he stressed that the Palestinian revolution is linked to the great 1 September Revolution by strong revolutionary and strategic relations. He stressed that the Palestinian revolution will continue the armed struggle until victory.

At the peak of the celebration, strategic bombers, Mirages, and trainer planes of the Libyan Air Forces staged an exercise at a special site on the airbase. The operation included the dropping of napalm bombs, the firing of air-to-surface missiles, and the firing of aircraft machineguns. The Libyan pilots displayed great competence in hitting their targets.

More on Al-Qadhafi Speech

Tripoli ARNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Jun 76 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 11 June--Brother Col Mu'ammr al-Qadhafi, chairman of the Revolution Command Council, pointed out that the Libyan Arab People's celebration of the anniversary of the evacuation of U.S. bases in Libya comes during difficult times for the Arab nation and the Palestinian Arab people, particularly the Palestinian resistance.

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He made clear that discussing developments in the Lebanese arena is difficult because concepts and stances have changed and any Arab citizen in any country or in any part of the world now feels confused on this subject. He said: Some of our brothers are now burying their dead and do not know by whose bullets these people were killed. He added: There is Arab blood flowing in the Lebanese arena which should have been spared so that it could flow in the land of occupied Palestine.

Arms for Egypt, Syria

Tripoli ARNA in Arabic 1502 GMT 11 Jun 76 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 11 June--Brother Col Mu'ammr al-Qadhafi has announced that the LAR is a partner in arming the Egyptian and Syrian armies and the Palestinian resistance. Libya was also a partner in the Ramadan war, despite the fact that it disapproved of the war plan because it was an unsuccessful plan. He said: It is our right to talk now about what is happening in the Arab arena in order to learn the purposes for which the hundreds of tanks, the scores of guns and boats, and the tons of ammunition--presented by the Libyan Arab people for the war--are being used.

The brother colonel emphasized that the LAR will offer all it possesses if a war with the enemy occurs. Therefore, we must be partners from the beginning. He added: What is taking place in the Lebanese arena is not the real objective for which the Arab nation offered arms, ammunition and support to the confrontation states.

The brother colonel pointed to the material and military support which the LAR extended to Syria, Egypt and the Palestinian resistance during the Ramadan war. He said: The tanks, planes, guns and ammunition offered by the Libyan Arab people are now being used in losing battles.

On Liquidation of Palestine Resistance

Tripoli ARNA in Arabic 1504 GMT 11 Jun 76 LD

[Text] Col Mu'ammr al-Qadhafi stated that if the objective of the Syrian military intervention in Lebanon is to liquidate the Palestinian resistance, this is high national treason. In this case, the confrontation of the Syrian forces with the Palestinian resistance is considered to be the same as a confrontation by the resistance with racist Zionist forces. In his speech delivered today at the 11 June Airbase, Al-Qadhafi said that the Libyan Arab Republic fully opposes such action, whether Syrian or non-Syrian. He added that any Arab who is now confronting the Zionist enemy has a right to oppose the Syrian forces if their aim is to strike the Palestinian resistance.

On Syrian Annexation of Lebanon

Tripoli ARNA in Arabic 1506 GMT 11 Jun 76 LD

[Text] Col Mu'ammr al-Qadhafi announced that a number of Syrian brigades have overrun Lebanon with their guns and tanks. In his speech delivered today at the 11 June Airbase, Al-Qadhafi said that if the aim of the Syrian intervention in Lebanon is to annex it, which would be a unification action, then we have no comment on this. However, the nature of this action must be made clear to Syria's allies, the resistance's allies and the Lebanese people's allies. Colonel Al-Qadhafi added that if Syria wants to annex Lebanon with or without bloodshed, then this is an issue that does not concern the LAR but concerns only the Lebanese people. [as received]

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On Opposing Lebanese 'Nationalist Forces'

Tripoli ARNA in Arabic 1508 GMT 11 Jun 76 LD

[Text] Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi asserted that if the Syrian military intervention in Lebanon is aimed at striking the Lebanese nationalist forces, then this is considered another unforgivable national crime which must be opposed. He added that opposing the Lebanese national movement is the same as opposing the Arab revolution in any area, which is also similar to opposing the great 1 September Revolution. Such opposition is rejected by the Libyan Arab people.

Syrian Invasion Sets a Precedent

Tripoli ARNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 11 Jun 76 LD

[Text] In his speech delivered today at the 11 June Airbase, Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi said that if the Syrian forces intervened in Lebanon to help a particular faction, such as the right, then this is unacceptable, permitting us all to help any side we choose. Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, the leader of the revolution, said that Syrian military intervention in Lebanon might create a historical precedent preventing the Arab League from justifying future efforts to stop an Arab army from crossing the borders of another Arab state. He added that in such a situation, the Arab League would be unable to do anything more than adopt feeble resolutions, protest and deliberate. He added that the precedent of an Arab army crossing the borders of another state will benefit some countries and will frighten others.

LIBYAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION FORMED

Tripoli ARNA in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Jun 76 LD

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 12 June--Establishment of the Libyan Arab-Soviet Friendship Association was announced in Tripoli yesterday after the Constituent Assembly had completed the formulation of its basic organization and the internal statutes. Association sources said that the announcement coincides with the evacuation anniversary [of U.S. forces from Libya], a historic and glorious day for the struggle of the Arab nation and the struggle of the peoples of the entire world. The anniversary is worthy of being honored and made a symbol of mankind's struggle against the forces of evil and imperialism.

MAURITANIA

PRESIDENT ADVOCATES DAY OF 'NATIONAL REUNIFICATION'

Paris AFP in French 1826 GMT 11 Jun 76 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, 11 Jun--"National reunification" has begun under the best possible circumstances "except for the criminal provocations of the agents of the Algerian regime," the president of the Republic of Mauritania, Mr. Moktar Ould Daddah, said today during the opening of the first ordinary session of the "National Council."

Peace and tranquillity have been perfectly restored in the western tiris (former Rio de Oro), the chief of state added. In this sense President Ould Daddah suggested that the National Council choose a day "of national reunification" as well as a day "of the armed forces and security" in recognition of having opposed "the harebrained mercenaries who received from their masters in Algeria the order and extremely important means to try to drown the failure of their dark work against reunification in both perfidious and suicidal attacks, such as the attack on our capital."

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AMBASSADOR ACCUSES ALGERIA OF ARMED AGGRESSION

Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 14 Jun 76 LD

[Text] Mauritania has accused Algeria of unmistakable aggression. The Mauritanian ambassador [in Paris] gave details this afternoon about the attack on Nouakchott last week by POLISARIO Front guerillas. According to the Mauritanian ambassador, the 800 men who formed the column which made the attack came from Tindouf in Algeria. They were equipped with sophisticated arms and transmission equipment, and their aim was to seize power--another very serious accusation.

The Mauritians followed the progress of the Saharan column from the time it crossed the border. The bodies of 250 of the assailants have been counted and practically all their vehicles, about 100, have been captured. Mauritania is openly accusing Algeria. Now listen to the Mauritanian ambassador. [recording begins]

I am indeed speaking about an unmistakable aggression guided by Algeria. The column was comprised of about 700 to 800 men and it had about 100 crosscountry vehicles, it had a considerable number of sophisticated arms and three vehicles equipped with the latest transmission apparatus. The objective of this [word indistinct] column was to seize power in Mauritania. With the help of the information we have been able to gather from the prisoners, and also with the help of the documents we have obtained--and we consider the declaration which was to be broadcast on the radio following the so-called takeover of power, among other things, to be of an exceptional importance--there is no doubt at all about their aim. [recording ends]

ARMY MOPS UP REMAINS OF POLISARIO COLUMN

Paris AFP in French 1822 GMT 12 Jun 76 FA

[Excerpts] Nouakchott, 12 Jun--Mopping up operations by the Mauritanian Army against elements of the POLISARIO Front column that advanced toward Nouakchott last Tuesday continue at present in the northern part of the country, the Ministry of National Sovereignty said Saturday.

The only clashes reported, the same source says, took place some 800 km from Nouakchott in the Tourine region, some 100 km northeast of the mining town of Zouerate. The same source said that during these engagements, according to the latest count, 45 members of the POLISARIO Front have been killed.

Fighting began on Friday, 11 June, and has continued during the night.

Eight land rovers, a truck, a 110 mm recoilless cannon, and two mortars have been seized by the Mauritanian forces.

According to unconfirmed reports, it seems that the POLISARIO Front vehicles attempting to return to their base are having difficulties in obtaining fuel. During the first clashes north of Nouakchott several tank trucks were destroyed.

250 POLISARIO 'MERCENARIES' REPORTED KILLED

Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 13 Jun 76 LD

[Text] Today, Nouakchott Radio reported that 250 mercenaries of what is called the POLISARIO Front were killed during a treacherous attack they recently launched on the Mauritanian capital.